



From: **Office of the Mayor**

Daniel Williams, Director of Media Relations
Office of the Mayor
(216) 664-4011

Latoya Hunter, Assistant Director of Media Relations,
Social Media and Digital Integration
Office of the Mayor
(216) 664-4303

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Mayor Frank G. Jackson Administers Oath of Office to New Deputy Chief of Homeland Special Operations

CLEVELAND – Mayor Frank G. Jackson today administered the oath of office to Commander Harold A. Pretel, appointing him as the new deputy chief of homeland special operations. Pretel, a 23-year veteran of the Cleveland Division of Police, will now oversee the Bureaus of Special Investigations, Special Services and Homeland Services. He assumes the role following the retirement of Deputy Chief Edward Tomba.

“I am pleased to administer the oath of office to Mr. Pretel as the new deputy chief of homeland security operations,” said Mayor Frank G. Jackson. “He has served the citizens of Cleveland for several years, helping keep our city safe and engaging well with our local and national partners. I look forward to his ongoing service.”

[View Pretel’s extensive job description here.](#) Units such as Domestic Violence, Gang Impact, Financial Crimes, Narcotics, Crime Analysis and several others report to the Deputy Chief of Homeland Special Operations.

Pretel enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in 1986 and served in Japan, Korea, and California as a Military Police Office, achieving the rank of Corporal. In 1990, he continued his career in law enforcement with the Cuyahoga County Sheriff’s Office; first as a Corrections Officer and then a Deputy Sheriff and Detective.

In 1994, he joined the Cleveland Police Department as a Patrol Officer in the 6th District. In 2000, he was appointed as the Sergeant in Charge of the Second District Fresh Start Unit. In 2004, he continued on as the Lieutenant in Charge of the Second District’s Detective Bureau, later, the Office of Professional Standards, and lastly, the Office of Homeland Security.

Since 2011, he has served as the Commander of the Office of Homeland Services, responsible for steady state and emergency operations, and plans involving protective posture and Homeland Security policies and procedures for the City of Cleveland.

“If you look at Harold’s resume, you can see that he is extremely qualified for this position,” said Chief of Police Calvin Williams. “But if you look around at all the people who came to support him today, that is a testament to his ability to do this job well for the City of Cleveland, and to make sure this job is done in partnership with state, federal county and local law enforcement.”

Pretel is a member of various professional organizations, and received an Associate’s Degree from Cuyahoga Community College, a Bachelor’s Degree in Criminal Justice from Baldwin Wallace University, a Master’s Degree in Social Administration with a concentration in

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Community Development from Case Western Reserve University, and a Masters in Security Studies, Homeland Security, and Defense from the Naval Postgraduate School.

He has received the Medal of Heroism, the Distinguished Service Medal, a Special Commendation, several Community Service Awards, and he is a Congressman Louis Stokes Fellow.

About the City of Cleveland

The City of Cleveland is committed to improving the quality of life for its residents by strengthening neighborhoods, delivering superior services, embracing diversity and making Cleveland a desirable, safe city in which to live, work, play, and do business. For more information on the City of Cleveland, visit online at www.city.cleveland.oh.us, Twitter at @cityofcleveland or Facebook at www.facebook.com/cityofcleveland.

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